

Docket No. AUS920000752US1

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

sub B1 5 1. A method for reporting failures, comprising:
detecting a predetermined number of consecutive
correctable errors;
storing a description for each of the predetermined
number of correctable errors;
10 determining whether the descriptions for the
predetermined number of correctable errors are the same;
and
reporting a bit line or driver failure if the
descriptions for the predetermined number of correctable
15 errors are the same.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of detecting
a predetermined number of correctable errors comprises
performing a periodic scan for a processor.

20 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of storing a
description for each of the predetermined number of
correctable errors comprises storing the descriptions in
an error data structure.

25 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the error data
structure comprises an error table.

5. The method of claim 3, further comprising:
30 clearing the error data structure if an

*30**Sub
a/b*

Docket No. AUS920000752US1

Sub B1
Sub ab

uncorrectable error occurs before detecting the predetermined number of consecutive correctable errors.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of reporting a bit line or driver failure comprises:
 - 5 creating an error log; and
 - returning the error log to an operating system.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined number is five.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein each description comprises an address at which an error occurred and an error signature that indicates which bit is bad.
- 15 9. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - deconfiguring the processor if the descriptions for the predetermined number of errors are the same.
- 20 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the step of deconfiguring the processor comprises dynamically deconfiguring the processor.
- 25 11. The method of claim 9, wherein the step of deconfiguring the processor comprises deconfiguring the processor at boot time.
- 30 12. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - replacing the processor if the descriptions for the predetermined number of correctable errors are the same.

Docket No. AUS920000752US1

sub B1 

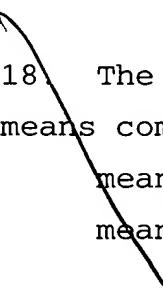
13. An apparatus for reporting failures, comprising:
detection means for detecting a predetermined number
of consecutive correctable errors;
storage means for storing a description for each of
5 the predetermined number of correctable errors;
determination means for determining whether the
descriptions for the predetermined number of correctable
errors are the same; and
reporting means for reporting a bit line or driver
10 failure if the descriptions for the predetermined number
of correctable errors are the same.

14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the detection
means comprises performing a periodic scan for a
15 processor.

15. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the storage means
comprises an error data structure.

20 16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the error data
structure comprises an error table.

17. The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising:
means for clearing the error data structure if an
25 uncorrectable error occurs before detecting the
predetermined number of consecutive correctable errors.

Sub A1 

sub B1 

28 18. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the reporting
means comprises:
means for creating an error log; and
30 means for returning the error log to an operating

Docket No. AUS920000752US1

Prob 1 ~~system.~~

19. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the predetermined number is five.

5

20. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein each description comprises an address at which an error occurred and an error signature that indicates which bit is bad.

10 21. The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising:

deconfiguration means for deconfiguring the processor if the descriptions for the predetermined number of errors are the same.

15 22. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the deconfiguration means comprises means for dynamically deconfiguring the processor.

20 23. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the deconfiguration means comprises means for deconfiguring the processor at boot time.

24. The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising:
means for replacing the processor if the
25 descriptions for the predetermined number of correctable errors are the same.

25. An apparatus for reporting failures, comprising:
a processor; and
30 a memory, coupled to the processor, having stored therein an error data structure,

Docket No. AUS920000752US1

pub B1

wherein the processor detects a predetermined number of consecutive correctable errors, stores a description for each of the predetermined number of correctable errors in the error data structure, determines whether

5 the descriptions for the predetermined number of correctable errors are the same, and reports a bit line or driver failure if the descriptions for the predetermined number of correctable errors are the same.

10 26. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the processor detects a predetermined number of consecutive correctable errors by performing a periodic scan for the processor.

15 27. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the error data structure comprises an error table.

20 28. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the processor reports a bit line or driver failure by creating an error log, and returning the error log to an operating system.

29. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the predetermined number is five.

25 30. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein each description comprises an address at which an error occurred and an error signature that indicates which bit is bad.

31. A computer program product, in a computer readable medium, for reporting failures, comprising:

30 instructions for detecting a predetermined number of consecutive correctable errors;

Docket No. AUS920000752US1

DWB/1 ~~instructions for storing a description for each of the predetermined number of correctable errors;~~

~~instructions for determining whether the descriptions for the predetermined number of correctable~~

5 ~~errors are the same; and~~

~~instructions for reporting a bit line or driver failure if the descriptions for the predetermined number of correctable errors are the same.~~